

Message Text

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21 11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 USSS-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 PC-15

SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-10 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 SR-02 ORM-03

CPR-02 /216 W

----- 065413

O 080710Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3319

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL STUTTGART PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 3335

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US UG GW

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF EMBASSY

REF: COOTE-KEELEY TELCON EVENING NOV. 7

1. TO RECAPITULATE FROM LAST EVENING, AT SOVIET RECEPTION A GOODLY NUMBER OF PEOPLE WERE AWARE OF OUR IMPENDING CLOSURE. SOME EVEN HAD THE DATE. ETIANG APPROACHED ME AND FROM HIS CONVERSATION IT WAS APPARENT HE DID NOT KNOW, AS HE TALKED IN TERMS OF A REDUCTION IN SIZE OF EMBASSY, BASED ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH WEN COOTE IN NEW YORK, AND ASKED HOW MANY OF US WOULD REMAIN. I SAID ORIGINAL PLAN HAD BEEN TO GO DOWN TO FOUR PEOPLE PLUS SIX MSG'S, BUT NOW THAT LATTER HAVE BEEN EXPELLED I DID NOT KNOW JUST WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.

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2. A NEWLY-ASSIGNED SOVIET MILITARY AND AIR FORCE ATTACHE,

COLONEL ALEXANDRE N. RUBANOV. AND HIS WIFE WERE IN THE RECEIVING LINE. ALL SOVIETS WERE EXTREMELY CORDIAL. FOR THIRD YEAR IN A ROW GENERAL AMIN ATTENDED THE RECEPTION, WHICH IS NOT HIS NORMAL PRACTICE WITH NATIONAL DAY RECEPTIONS. AMB. ZAKHAROV GAVE A LENGTHY SPEECH, SORT OF AN OUTLINE OF SOVIET POLICY TOWARD THE THIRD WORLD. THERE WAS NOT AN ANTI-AMERICAN NOTE IN IT, AND, IN FACT, HE INCLUDED A PASSAGE WHICH STATED THAT THE NEW RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPING BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT ONLY IN THEIR INTEREST BUT WAS ALSO IN THE INTEREST OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES BECAUSE IT HELPED PROMOTE PEACE, WHICH WAS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL COUNTRIES. SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICERS TOOK PAINS TO POINT THIS PASSAGE OUT TO ME. ONE SAID CREDIT WAS DUE TO COUNSELOR KASATKIN, WHO HAD CONVINCED ZAKHAROV TO INCLUDE THAT STATEMENT ABOUT THE U.S.

3. AMIN'S EXTEMPORE REPLY WAS A BIT GAUCHE. HIS MAIN THEME WAS PRAISE FOR THE USSR'S POLITICAL SUPPORT AND ARMS DELIVERIES TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF AFRICA AND TO THE ARAB STATES FIGHTING AGAINST ISRAEL IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BUT HE SAID THE REASON THE ARABS HAD NOT DONE BETTER AGAINST ISRAEL WAS THAT THE AMERICANS HAD GIVEN VERY SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS TO THE ISRAELIS. THE IMPLICATION OF THESE REMARKS, WHICH WERE LOST ON NO ONE PRESENT, WAS THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD FAILED TO SUPPLY THE ARAB SIDE WITH SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS, OR THAT SOVIET WEAPONS ARE INFERIOR TO AMERICAN WEAPONS. I REMARKED TO SOVIET ECON OFFICER YERSHOV, WHO WAS STANDING NEXT TO ME DURING THE SPEECHES, "I SUPPOSE THE SA-6 MISSILE IS NOT A SOPHISTICATED WEAPON." HE SAID: "THE ISRAELIS KNOW IT IS."

4. TOWARD END OF RECEPTION FON MIN PROTOCOL CHIEF OSEKU SIDLED UP TO ME AND SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTER WISHED TO SEE ME AT 1030 THE FOLLOWING MORNING. I SAID I'D BE THERE. I TRIED TO CONFER WITH FRG AMB. KOPF, BUT HE HAD ALREADY LEFT RECEPTION, PROBABLY TO GO TO DINNER. THERE WAS NO ANSWER AT HIS HOUSE FOR REMAINDER OF EVENING SO I CALLED HILLGENBERG AND TOLD HIM WHAT I PLANNED TO DO, THAT IS, GIVE OUR NOTE ANNOUNCING CLOSURE OF EMBASSY TO FON MIN ONDOGA THIS MORNING, LEAVING OUT ANY MENTION OF THE FRG. PLAN TO SEE KOPF
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IN A FEW MINUTES AND CONFIRM THIS TO HIM.

5. THERE ARE NO CABLES ON THIS SUBJECT IN THIS MORNING'S TRAFFIC FROM THE DEPT., SO I ASSUME I AM TO PROCEED ON BASIS AGREED UPON IN TELCON LAST NIGHT, THAT IS, TO DELIVER THE TEXT AS GIVEN IN STATE 216671, WITH TWO MODIFICATIONS. FIRST CHANGE WOULD BE TO SUBSTITUTE FOR SENTENCE BEGINNING "THE USG INTENDS TO ENTRUST..." WITH A SENTENCE READING:

"THE EMBASSY WILL, WITHOUT DELAY, INFORM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REGARDING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO REQUEST ANOTHER POWER TO ASSUME THE PROTECTION OF ITS INTERESTS AND PROPERTY IN UGANDA." SECOND CHANGE IS TO SUBSTITUTE "PROTECTING POWER" FOR "FRG EMBASSY" IN FINAL SENTENCE.

6. ASSUMING I AM STILL HERE THIS AFTERNOON, AND PENDING CLARIFICATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT, I WILL TRY TO SEE FON MIN PERM SEC NTIMBA THIS AFTERNOON AND DELIVER A NOTE PHRASED AS FOLLOWS: "THE USG INTENDS TO ASK THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRG TO ASSUME THE PROTECTION OF ITS INTERESTS AND PROPERTY IN UGANDA. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION, IN WRITING, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA HAS NO OBJECTION TO THIS UNDERTAKING." I WOULD ASK NTIMBA TO TRY TO GIVE US AN ANSWER BY COB FRIDAY.

7. HAVE JUST BRIEFED KOPF AND HILLGENBERG ON THE ABOVE PROCEDURE. KOPF ASKED THAT I NOT DELIVER THE SECOND NOTE, WHICH MENTIONS THEM, UNTIL WE HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER WORD FROM BONN AND WASHINGTON. I AGREED TO HOLD OFF, BUT SAID THAT I THOUGHT WE OUGHT TO GIVE THE GOU THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME POSSIBLE TO GIVE US AN ANSWER.

8. AT RECEPTION LAST NIGHT SEVERAL PEOPLE REMARKED THAT AMIN WILL BE QUITE "PUT OUT" THAT SADAT HAS AGREED TO RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. JUST AT THE TIME THAT THE U.S. IS DOING THE OPPOSITE WITH HIM.
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